



# South Coast Air Quality Management District

21865 Copley Drive, Diamond Bar, CA 91765-4178  
(909) 396-2000 • www.aqmd.gov

June 5, 2020

Governor's Office of Planning and Research  
State Clearinghouse  
Attn: Scott Morgan  
1400 Tenth Street, Suite 222  
Sacramento, CA 95814-5502

Re: Electronic Filing and Posting of Notice of Exemption for the Reasonably Available Control Technology (RACT) Demonstration and Emissions Statement Certification for the 2015 8-Hour Ozone Standard

Dear Mr. Morgan:

The South Coast Air Quality Management District (South Coast AQMD) Governing Board at its June 5, 2020 Hearing determined that the RACT Demonstration and Emissions Statement Certification for the 2015 8-Hour Ozone Standard were exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and approved the project. The attached Notice of Exemption was prepared for the project pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15062 – Notice of Exemption. In lieu of filing the Notice of Exemption with the county clerk of each county in which the project will be located (e.g., Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside and San Bernardino counties) pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15062(c)(2), I am electronically filing the Notice of Exemption with your office for posting on the CEQAnet Web Portal at <https://ceqanet.opr.ca.gov/search/recent> in accordance with Governor Newsom's Executive Order N-54-20 issued on April 22, 2020 for the State of Emergency in California as a result of the threat of COVID-19.

In addition, this Notice of Exemption has been electronically posted on the South Coast AQMD's webpage which can be accessed via the following weblink: <http://www.aqmd.gov/nav/about/public-notices/ceqa-notices/notices-of-exemption/noe---year-2020>. Finally, this Notice of Exemption has been distributed electronically via email to interested parties.

If you have any questions regarding this electronic filing and request for posting, please call me at (909) 396-2716. Thank you for your kind attention regarding this matter.

Sincerely,

Barbara Radlein  
Program Supervisor, CEQA Section  
Planning, Rule Development and Area Sources

Attachment

**NOTICE OF EXEMPTION FROM THE  
CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT (CEQA)**

**To:** Governor's Office of Planning and Research -  
State Clearinghouse  
1400 Tenth St, Suite 222  
Sacramento, CA 95814-5502

**From:** South Coast Air Quality Management District  
21865 Copley Drive  
Diamond Bar, CA 91765

**Project Title:** Reasonably Available Control Technology (RACT) Demonstration and Emissions Statement Certification for the 2015 8-Hour Ozone Standard

**Project Location:** The project is located within the South Coast Air Quality Management District (South Coast AQMD) jurisdiction which includes the four-county South Coast Air Basin (all of Orange County and the non-desert portions of Los Angeles, Riverside and San Bernardino counties), and the Riverside County portions of the Salton Sea Air Basin (SSAB) and Mojave Desert Air Basin (MDAB).

**Description of Nature, Purpose, and Beneficiaries of Project:** The proposed project is comprised of: 1) the identification, analysis and demonstration of the current South Coast AQMD rules which meet or exceed federal RACT requirements; 2) a commitment to conduct a future rulemaking to amend South Coast AQMD Rule 1115 – Motor Vehicle Assembly Line Coating Operations, to meet RACT; 3) a determination that South Coast AQMD Rule 301 – Permitting and Associated Fees, adequately meets the emissions statement requirements for the 2015 8-Hour Ozone Standard; and 4) a submittal of the RACT Demonstration and Emissions Statement Certification for the 2015 8-Hour Ozone Standard into the state implementation plan (SIP).

**Public Agency Approving Project:**  
South Coast Air Quality Management District

**Agency Carrying Out Project:**  
South Coast Air Quality Management District

**Exempt Status:**

CEQA Guidelines Section 15061(b)(3) – Common Sense Exemption

CEQA Guidelines Section 15308 – Actions by Regulatory Agencies for Protection of the Environment

**Reasons why project is exempt:** Pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), South Coast AQMD, as Lead Agency, has reviewed the RACT Demonstration and Emissions Statement Certification for the 2015 8-Hour Ozone Standard pursuant to: 1) CEQA Guidelines Section 15002(k) – General Concepts, the three-step process for deciding which document to prepare for a project subject to CEQA; and 2) CEQA Guidelines Section 15061 – Review for Exemption, procedures for determining if a project is exempt from CEQA. Since the proposed project is administrative in nature and would not cause any physical changes that would adversely affect any environmental topic area, it can be seen with certainty that there is no possibility that the proposed project may have a significant adverse effect on the environment. Therefore, the project is exempt from CEQA pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15061(b)(3) – Common Sense Exemption. In addition, the proposed project is considered an action to protect or enhance the environment pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15308 – Actions by Regulatory Agencies for Protection of the Environment. Further, there is no substantial evidence indicating that any of the exceptions to the categorical exemption apply to the proposed project pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15300.2 – Exceptions.

**Date of Project Approval:**

South Coast AQMD Governing Board Hearing: June 5, 2020; South Coast AQMD Headquarters

**CEQA Contact Person:**

Mr. Ryan Bañuelos

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**Rule Contact Person:**

Mr. Jong Hoon Lee

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**Date Received for Filing:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_



Barbara Radlein

Program Supervisor, CEQA

Planning, Rule Development, and Area Sources